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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of  
TANIGUCHI, Kazunori et al

New York, New York  
Date: October 3, 2005

Serial No.: 10/630,509  
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For: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

Group Art Unit: 3739

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**STATUS INQUIRY LETTER**

Sir:

We filed the above application with the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office on July 30, 2003.

As of this date, we have not received a first Office Action from the Patent Office. Kindly advise us of the status of this application.

Respectfully Submitted,

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